

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A power steering hose comprising:
a hose member having an outer surface extending between a first end and a second end of the hose;
a damper disposed on said outer surface of said hose member generally between said first and second ends and adjustably moveable positionable along a longitudinal axis of the hose member therebetween, said damper comprising:
a moveable cylindrical main body having a longitudinal axis; and
a bore formed in said main body along said longitudinal axis ~~and having a solid wall~~, said bore operable to abuttingly receive said outer surface of said hose member~~[[.]]~~ .
said main body uncoupled to any surface other than said outer surface, to thereby dampen vibrational forces acting on the power steering hose.
2. (original) The power steering hose of claim 1 wherein said main body further includes a slot formed along said longitudinal axis, said slot extending from an outer surface of said main body and terminating at said bore.
3. (original) The power steering hose of claim 2 wherein a width of said slot is generally smaller than a diameter of said bore.
4. (original) The power steering hose of claim 1 wherein said main body includes a planar surface formed thereon.

5. (original) The power steering hose of claim 4 wherein a slot is formed in said planar surface, said slot extending from said planar surface and terminating at said bore.
6. (original) The power steering hose of claim 5 wherein a width of said slot is generally smaller than a diameter of said bore.
7. (original) The power steering hose of claim 1 wherein said hose member is formed from a flexible material, said flexible material operable to engage said bore to position said main body relative to said hose member.
8. (original) The power steering hose of claim 1 wherein said main body is formed from a rigid material.
9. (original) The power steering hose of claim 1 wherein said bore comprises an inner diameter which is smaller than an outer diameter of said hose.
10. (original) The power steering hose of claim 1 wherein said hose has an outer diameter approximately equal to an inner diameter of said bore, said bore operable to matingly receive said hose.
11. (original) The power steering hose of claim 1, further comprising a slot formed in said main body between an outer surface of said main body and said bore, said slot operable to provide clearance for said hose member to engage said bore, wherein said hose has an outer diameter greater than a width of said slot.
12. (original) The power steering hose of claim 11 wherein said hose is made from a flexible material, said flexible material operable to allow said hose to pass through said slot and engage said bore.

13. (currently amended) A method of dampening vibrational forces acting upon a power steering hose, the method comprising:

forming a power steering hose from a flexible material, said power steering hose having an outer surface extending between a first and second end of the hose;

providing a mass damper adjustably ~~moveable~~ positionable on the outer surface of the hose along a longitudinal axis thereof between the first and second ends comprising a bore and a longitudinal slot;

compressing a section of said power steering hose, said compressed section generally equivalent in length to said longitudinal slot;

passing said compressed section through said slot and into said bore; and

releasing said compressed section once said compressed section is axially aligned with said bore to secure said mass damper only to said outer surface of the power steering hose.

14. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein said bore includes an inner diameter generally smaller than an outer diameter of said power steering hose.

15. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein said longitudinal slot includes a width generally smaller than an outer diameter of said power steering hose.

16. (original) The method of claim 13 further comprising forming a planar surface on an outer surface of said main body.

17. (original) The method of claim 16 further comprising forming said slot in said planar surface.